

Action Agenda 1999-2004

What the University of Kentucky Will Do To Advance Kentucky's Reform of Postsecondary Education

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For more information, see our Website: www.uky.edu

What will it mean to be a Top 20 research university in 2020?

It will mean that by 2020, as noted in its strategic plan, the University of Kentucky will . . .

- Have 10 or more "target of opportunity" research and graduate programs ranked in the Top 20 or the top quartile of public research universities as measured by ratings of individual disciplines, scholarly productivity, citation ranking, outside funding, reputation ratings, or other suitable measures.
- Strengthen the university's commitment to the first professional degree programs – law, medicine, dentistry, and pharmacy – to continue and enhance their national standing.
- Improve UK's position among U.S. public research universities (based on National Science Foundation rankings) from 46th to 40th.
- Increase research and development support to \$145 million per year.
- Increase by 10 percent the number of national and international awards earned by faculty and students for their scholarly research, teaching, and service.
- Increase to 40 percent the number of entering freshmen on the Lexington Campus who score 26 and above on the ACT (or SAT equivalent).
- Improve to 55 percent the percentage of full-time undergraduate students (first-time degree-seeking freshmen) who earn a baccalaureate degree within six years of first enrolling.
- Increase the number of graduate degrees by 10 percent.
- Add 40 faculty positions, to include at least 25 endowed chairs, and endow at least an additional 25 professorships to strengthen research and education.
- Revise and improve the degree-audit system to assist in timely and accurate student advising.
- Have full-time faculty teach at least 50 percent of the sections in lower-division courses and 65 percent of the lower-division credit hours.
- Ensure that all departments with teaching assistants have programs to help them instruct effectively.

- Improve the university libraries' ranking among public research libraries from 32nd to 28.th
- Complete installation of the campus network to on-campus faculty offices, laboratories, and classrooms, and to student residence halls.
- Continue the implementation of the comprehensive plan to provide state-of-the-art academic computing for students and encourage applications of new technologies in teaching and learning.
- Complete the infrastructure for 330 acres and have an inventory of 26 lots available for lease or leased at the Coldstream Research Campus.
- Facilitate at least five new start-up ventures in the Commonwealth based on the intellectual property of university personnel.
- Expand and support partnerships between the Lexington Community College and the Lexington Campus-Medical Center and the other community colleges, and their corporate and small business partners, to develop new technical programs to assist economic development and workforce development.
- Offer more land-grant outreach to citizens, businesses, schools, farms, communities, professions, and government and nongovernmental agencies.
- Increase the university's endowment to at least \$400 million.

Why is it important for Kentucky to have a Top 20 research university?

- To attract to the Commonwealth, educate, and retain bright, motivated people
- To discover, disseminate, and apply knowledge important to Kentucky's future
- To provide the knowledge and leadership to bring about needed change
- To achieve unparalleled growth in outside funding
- To advance the development and use of technology
- To foster statewide economic and business activity
- To help Kentucky become a top state in economic competitiveness, international trade, and quality of life
- To help communities and agencies across the Commonwealth design and implement initiatives to improve the quality of life for children and families
- To tap the enormous potential of Kentucky's natural and human resources

How will UK know that it has done what it says it will do?

- Systematic assessment of results; comparison of results to goals in the strategic plan
- Annual Strategic Plan Progress Report presented to the Board of Trustees